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Children make significant gains in Georgia's Pre-K Summer Transition program

ATLANTA, Ga., (July 28, 2011) – A recently published evaluation from the 2010 Georgia's Pre-K Summer Transition program showed that the 891 children who participated, demonstrated significant gains in the course of the program. Evaluation results show that children showed improvements in language and literacy skills. Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning administers the nationally recognized Georgia's Pre-K Program.

The Summer Transition Program, funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act in 2010, enabled Bright from the Start to expand its Pre-K services by offering the Summer Transition program. The program was available to both children who did not attend Georgia's Pre-K during the preceding year and children who participated in Georgia's Pre-K but may have needed additional instructional time. The program provided services to children for six weeks in June and July of 2010. It was offered in 60 classrooms in 19 counties across the state.

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Last year's Summer Transition Program was such a success that Georgia's Department of Human Services provided funding for a second year in a row. The program will conclude in August and the evaluation results will be released later this year.

To access the full report, go to Bright from the Start's website at www.decal.ga.gov.

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Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning is responsible for meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and their families. It administers the nationally recognized Georgia's Pre-K Program, licenses child care centers and home-based child care, administers federal nutrition programs, and manages voluntary quality enhancement programs.

The department also houses the Head Start State Collaboration Office, distributes federal funding to enhance the quality and availability of child care, and works collaboratively with Georgia child care resource and referral agencies and organizations throughout the state to enhance early care and education. For more information, go to www.decal.ga.gov.